

# Congregational Tidings

*No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here!*



A weekly newsletter



[www.facebook.com/FirstCongregationalUCCWaterlooIowa](https://www.facebook.com/FirstCongregationalUCCWaterlooIowa)

September 15, 2021



Rally Day was such a fun day, and it was wonderful seeing so many folks again! Thank you to all who helped make the day so special! Tim Ahrens and the Board of Spiritual Growth and

Programs prepared a delicious picnic lunch served out on the lawn. Abbie Greene prepared publicity, games, & decorations, and has been busy preparing for our upcoming Sunday School season for youth. Paul Greene arranged for Musica Ficta, a brass and percussion group, who play for our service and picnic, adding their joyous noise to our gathering. Luke prepared the choir for their debut after an 18 months hiatus. Many helped in the set-up, serving, and clean up. All in all, it was so good to be in each other's presence for worship and fellowship. Thank you, everyone, for your part and contribution!

---

**Don't forget about Sunday School this week!**

We will meet outside the church at 9:15am and will be talking about how we are "Invited by Light!"



---

## HYMN SING THIS SUNDAY



Psalm 96 says, "Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth." Although new songs definitely have their place, sometimes we just miss singing the OLD songs. We all have our favorites, and singing them with our church family makes them even more special. This Sunday is your opportunity to select your favorite. We will have both the New Century Hymnal (black) and the Pilgrim hymnal (red) available. Let Michelle know this week if you already know what you want, or let us know Sunday morning. I can't wait to "Sing to the Lord an OLD song!"

~ Anne Hoekstra

# Upcoming Events:

~ **Youth Group** on Wednesday, September 15th at 6pm!

We will be writing letters for the Cedar Valley Honor Flight as well as making oobleck.

---

~ **What: Kayaking**

**When:** Sunday, September 19, 2:00-4:00pm

**Where:** Big Woods Lake (South parking lot - NE Corner at boat launch)

Bring a Kayak or Canoe and your life jacket.

(Other things to bring: water bottle, sun screen, bug repellent)

Dress in clothing for wet adventures!



Afterglow to follow on Gary Waldon's deck who lives in the Royal Oaks in Cedar Falls.

**Please let Michelle ([fcuccoffice@gmail.com](mailto:fcuccoffice@gmail.com)) know the following by Tuesday, September 14:**

Are you going to participate? Yes or no

Do you plan to attend the "after glow" at Gary's house on Sunday after kayaking? Yes or No

---



Tyler and Abbie want to let you know about an incredible organization in Cedar Falls, **ThreeHouse Collaborative Campus Ministries!**

Here's what Tyler says: *"ThreeHouse isn't a place where people claim to have all the answers, and I think that's what is so attractive about it. It's a place where the minute you walk in the door, you are family. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey. I think that's attributed to the congregation of students and young adults, our incredible senior minister, Dave, his staff, and our amazing partner clergy. It's a place where there is no feeling of seniority, no divide between gender or color*

*or orientation or even belief. ThreeHouse is a place where the hard questions can be asked and discussed without any sense of shame. It's the perfect place for a college student or young adult to cultivate their faith/sense of purpose."*

One of the ways that ThreeHouse serves the University of Northern Iowa campus and students is by bringing around their "Treat Trike" where they bring around snacks for students! **We are asking YOU to donate snacks for the Treat Trike! Contact Abbie at [abbie.youthdirector@gmail.com](mailto:abbie.youthdirector@gmail.com) to coordinate snack-drop-off.**



# CHANGE OF ADDRESS



NOTE!  
ADDRESS CHANGE

Connie Paul has a new address that you can add to your church directory:

**Connie Paul**  
312 Southbrooke Dr. #5804  
Waterloo, IA 50702

---

## MOMENT FOR MISSIONS

You are Cordially Invited!

Let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. - 1 John 3:18



Have you noticed the new house being built across from our church on Park?

Ice Cream Social - Friday, September 17th from 5pm - 7pm  
Washington Park (West Park Ave & South Street)

---



~ CROP Walk 2021 will be held on Sept 26, 2021 at 1:30pm, at the Northeast Iowa Food Bank, 1605 Lafayette Street in Waterloo. This year is the 50th anniversary of the CROP Walk, so let's gather 50 of our friends and family together for this wonderful outdoor event to relieve hunger globally and locally! There will be a sign-up sheet and more information at our church Rally Day celebration on Sept 12th. Donation envelopes will be provided, so the walkers can collect donations prior to the walk. Call or text Diane Highnam (319-240-2849) if you have questions or want to be added to the group of walkers. Help end hunger ONE STEP AT A TIME!!!

---

\*\*\*\*\* 🎵 🎵 🥁 🥁 🥁 🎵 🎵 \*\*\*\*\*

Thank You Dan Hummel and your Beaker Brothers Band for donating your time and talents to the Stone Soul Picnic last Sunday to help raise funds to combat childhood hunger in northeast Iowa. Also much appreciation to Sue Hummel for serving treats and keeping track of the donations during the afternoon event!

~ Laurie

# Congregational Tidings

## FROM OUR REOPENING COMMITTEE

It was a beautiful sunny morning for worshipping outdoors last Sunday! Thank you to all that made it possible and for the outstanding lunch provided afterwards.

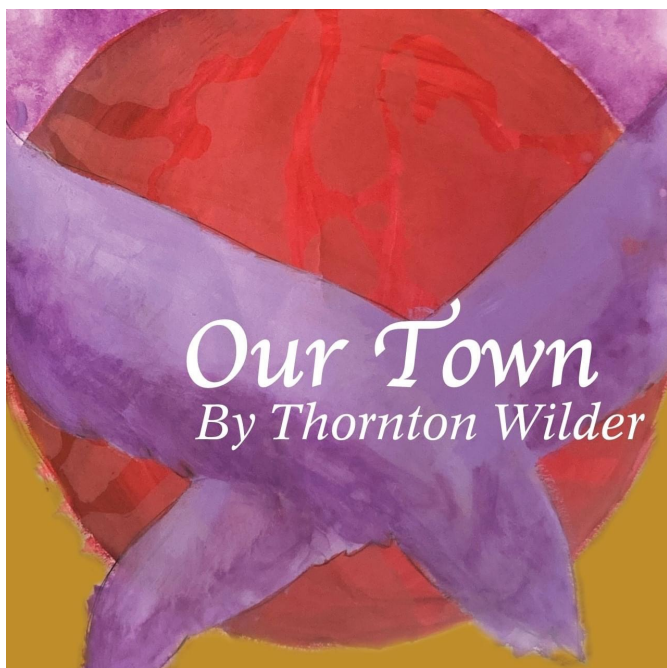
Our committee continues to meet weekly by Zoom. It appears the virus positive test cases in Blackhawk County are on a gradual decline. However, the Covid Status is still High at 11.2% so we need to keep doing our part to reduce the risk to one another at church. As long as the weather cooperates, we will worship outside. If ever the weather turns for the worse while worshipping or is uncomfortably cold that morning, you should know we will move the service into our sanctuary. If that happens, please wear your mask at all times inside, sit only with members of your immediate family and follow the spacing guidelines put in place on where it is acceptable to sit in the sanctuary. The balcony will be open for those who want a little extra distance from others while worshipping.

Don't forget to leave the church in a prompt manner after the service saving your socialization with friends outside the building where it is most safe to all. Thank you and see you Sunday!

Tim, Greg, Beth and Dave

*Create an endowment of love. Please consider including our church in your estate planning.*

F I R S T C O N G R E G A T I O N A L U C C



Please support Greg Holt  
with his new production opening  
Friday, September 17  
at the Waterloo Community Playhouse.  
It runs through 9/26 and you  
can purchase tickets at 319-291-4494  
or check out their website at  
[www.wcphbhct.org](http://www.wcphbhct.org)